

| Notice of Allowability | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|--|
| | 10/814,552 | PARKER ET AL. | |
| | Examiner Duc C. Ho | Art Unit 2619 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 10-19-07.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 4-7, 10, 11, 24-28 and 41-44. Renumbered 1-15, respectively.
3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date See Continuation Sheet
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 11-09-07.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

Continuation of Attachment(s) 3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date: 7-5-07;9-12-06;11-08-04.

EXAMINER 'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Viola T. Kung on 11-09-07.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

Claim 4, line 8, change "associated packet packet" to --- associated packets ---.

Claim 41, line 2, change "the packet" to --- a packet ---.

Claim 41, line 3, change "a packet" to --- the packet ---.

Claim 41, line 10, change "same" to --- the associated packet ---.

Claim 42, line 3, change "a packet" to --- the packet ---.

Claim 43, line 3, change "a packet" to --- the packet ---.

Claim 43, line 10, change "same" to --- the associated packet ---.

Claim 44, line 3, change "a packet" to --- the packet ---.

Reason for Allowance

2. Regarding claims 4-7, and 24-26, the prior art fails to teach or suggest a packet classification system comprising a packet classification engine that is configured to classify the packet responsive to the packet portions received over the first data path and provide data

representative of the packet classification; and an associator for associating the data representative of the packet classification with some or all of the packets, and providing the associated packets over a second data path having a second width less than the first width, in combination with other limitations, as specified in the independent claims 4, and 24.

Regarding claims 10-11, 28, 41, and 43, the prior art fails to teach or suggest a packet classification system comprising a control logic, wherein the control logic is configured to place an identifier of a packet on the first stack upon or after receipt of the packet by the packet classification system, pop the identifier off the first stack and place it on the second stack upon or after initiation of classification processing of the packet by the packet classification system, and pop the identifier off the second stack upon or after completion of classification processing of the packet by the packet classification system, and the packet classification system is prevented from outputting a packet while an identifier of the same is placed on either the first or second stacks, and is free to output the packet upon or after the identifier of the packet has been popped off the second stack, in combination with other limitations, as specified in the independent claims 10, 28, 41, and 43.

3. Regarding claims 27, 42, and 44, the prior art fails to teach or suggest a method of modifying a packet comprising the steps of modifying one or more packet portions; and assembling a packet from one or more modified and one or more unmodified packet portions, and providing the assembled packet over a second data path having a second width less than the first width, in combination with other limitations, as specified in claims 27, 42, and 44.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Duc Ho whose telephone number is (571) 272-3147. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 7:30 am to 6:00 pm.

If attempt to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jay Patel, can be reached on (571) 272-2988.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

6. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Patent Examiner



Duc Ho

11-09-07